



DATE: 10 SEPTEMBER 2026

1

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) (Source : The Hindu)

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is an autonomous intergovernmental organization established in 1957 under the United Nations system.

- *Aiming to promote the safe, secure, and peaceful use of nuclear energy worldwide, while preventing its military use, including nuclear weapons proliferation.*

Objectives

- To assist its member states in applying nuclear science and technology for peace, development, and health;
- To develop and enforce nuclear safety and security standards, protecting people and the environment from ionising radiation;
- To verify through its inspection system that nuclear materials are used only for peaceful purposes, especially under treaties such as the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

Facts To Know

- Formed on the principle of Atoms for Peace.
- Headquarters: Vienna, Austria.
- Award: Nobel Peace Prize in 2005.
- It reports to both the UNGA and the UNSC.
- The IAEA has 178 member states, with India being one of the founding members.



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2 United Nations Security Council (UNSC) (Source: The Hindu)

- *The Security Council was established by the UN Charter in 1945. It is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations.*
 - *Its primary responsibility is to work to maintain international peace and security.*
 - *The council is headquartered in New York.*
- **Membership**
 - The council has 15 members: the five permanent members and ten non-permanent members elected for two-year terms.
 - The five permanent members are the United States, the Russian Federation, France, China and the United Kingdom.
 - India is a non - permanent member of the council.
 - Each year, the General Assembly elects five non-permanent members (out of ten in total) for a two-year term. The ten non-permanent seats are distributed on a regional basis.

3 National Security Act (1980) (Source: The Hindu)

NATIONAL SECURITY ACT, 1980

Preventive Detention for National Security

The National Security Act (NSA), 1980 empowers the Central and State Governments to detain individuals preventively, without trial, to prevent activities prejudicial to the security of the State and maintenance of public order.



KEY FEATURES

- A preventive detention law enacted in 1980.
- Allows detention without trial to prevent threats to national security and public order.
- Applicable throughout India.
- Authorises Central and State Governments and certain officers (usually District Magistrate) to issue detention orders.

OBJECTIVES

- Prevent activities prejudicial to the security of India.
- Maintain public order.
- Ensure essential supplies and services to the community.
- Prevent smuggling of goods and foreign exchange.

WHO CAN BE DETAINED?

- Any person whose activities are considered prejudicial to:
- Security of India
 - Maintenance of public order
 - Maintenance of essential supplies and services
 - Prevention of smuggling of goods and foreign exchange

GROUND FOR DETENTION

- Activities threatening the security of India.
- Acts affecting public order.
- Activities that may lead to disruption of essential supplies and services (e.g., food, fuel, medicines).
- Involvement in smuggling of goods and foreign exchange.

MAXIMUM PERIOD

- A person can be detained for up to **12 months**.
- The government can revoke the order at any time before the expiry of the period.

PROCEDURE

- Detention order issued by authorised officer (usually District Magistrate).
- Person must be informed, as soon as possible, of the grounds of detention.
- Case must be placed before an Advisory Board within 3 weeks.
- Advisory Board, consisting of High Court judges, examines the grounds.
- If the Board is satisfied, detention continues; if not, the person must be released.

RIGHTS OF THE DETAINEE

- Right to be informed, as soon as possible, of the grounds for detention.
- Right to make a representation against the order.
- Can be assisted by a legal practitioner in making the representation.
- Certain facts may be withheld if their disclosure is against public interest.
- Right to approach the High Court under Article 226 for judicial review.

LANDMARK CASES

- **A.K. Gopalan v. State of Madras (1950)**
 - Upheld the constitutionality of preventive detention laws (including NSA).
- **R.C. Cooper v. Union of India (1970)**
 - Expanded the scope of judicial review and personal liberty.
- **Maneka Gandhi v. Union of India (1978)**
 - Established that any law depriving personal liberty must be just, fair and reasonable.
- **Rekha v. State of Tamil Nadu (2011)**
 - Madras High Court quashed detention order under NSA, stressing need for clear and specific grounds.

CRITICISMS

- Possibility of misuse for political purposes.
- Detention without trial seen as violation of personal liberty (Article 21).
- Vague and broad grounds for detention.
- Advisory Board's recommendations are not binding.
- Limited judicial review compared to ordinary criminal laws.

SIGNIFICANCE

- Provides the government with a tool to deal with serious threats to national security and public order.
- Widely used in cases of terrorism, communal violence, smuggling and organised crime.
- Remains a contentious law due to concerns over civil liberties and potential for abuse.

"National security is essential, but it must not come at the cost of the fundamental rights of individuals."

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4 Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM) (Source: The Hindu)

PM-KUSUM
Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan
Solar Energy for Farmers
A Brighter, Sustainable Tomorrow
*Clean Energy
Prosperous Farmers
Greener India*

SUN FOR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

ABOUT PM-KUSUM

PM-KUSUM (Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan) is a flagship scheme of the Government of India to promote solar energy in the agriculture sector, enhance farmers' income and ensure energy security.

LAUNCHED

Launched in
March 2019

OBJECTIVES

- Ensure energy security for farmers
- Reduce dependence on diesel and grid-based power
- Enhance farmers' income through additional sources of revenue
- Promote clean and renewable energy
- Contribute to India's climate goals and reduce carbon emissions

COMPONENTS

Component A Installation of Decentralised Solar Power Plants

- Set up solar power plants (500 kW to 2 MW) on barren or uncultivable land.
- Implemented by State Governments/ DISCOMs or cooperatives.
- Power procured by DISCOMs at a pre-determined tariff.

Component B Installation of Stand-alone Solar Agricultural Pumps

- Installation of stand-alone solar pumps (up to 7.5 HP).
- For farmers without grid connection.
- Helps in irrigation and reduces dependence on diesel.

Component C Solarisation of Grid-connected Agricultural Pumps

- Solarisation of existing grid-connected pumps.
- Excess power can be fed into the grid.
- Farmers get additional income through sale of surplus power to DISCOMs.

FINANCIAL MODEL

Typical Cost Sharing (for Components B & C)

- 30% Central Government Subsidy
- 30% State Government Subsidy
- 30% Bank Loan
- 10% Farmer's Contribution

BENEFITS

- Lower electricity cost for irrigation
- Increased and stable income for farmers
- Reduced diesel consumption
- Promotion of clean and green energy
- Lower greenhouse gas emissions
- Rural employment and development

PROGRESS

- Lakhs of solar pumps installed across India.
- Increased solar power capacity in the agricultural sector.
- Significant reduction in diesel use and carbon emissions.
- Contributing to India's target of 500 GW non-fossil fuel capacity by 2030.

Empowered Farmers | Clean Energy | Sustainable Agriculture | Atmanirbhar Bharat